

CENTRAL PUGET SOUND GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

FROM: Dave Earling, Administrative Chair – Central Puget Sound Board

DATE: June 24, 2009

RE: ADMINISTRATIVE CONSOLIDATION OF

THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARDS

During the 2009 session, the Washington State Legislature adopted a 2009-2011 Biennium Budget which reduced the Growth Management Hearings Boards' budget – Eastern Washington, Western Washington, and Central Puget Sound – by almost 16 percent, with budget notes specifically contemplating a consolidation of the Boards' current three offices into a single location. After numerous discussions held at the Joint Boards' Semi-Annual Meeting on April 30, 2009 and, at subsequent meetings on May 27, 2009 and June 9, 2009, the Boards have determined that to address these budget appropriations an administrative consolidation is necessary.

THEREFORE, effective July 1, 2009, the office of the Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board will be relocated to Olympia.¹ Contact and mailing information is as follows:

Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board Office of the Growth Management Hearings Board 319 - 7th Avenue S.E. Olympia, WA 98501 P.O. Box 40953 Olympia, WA 98504-0953 360-586-0260 360-664-8975 Fax

e-mail: central@cps.gmhb.wa.gov web site: www.gmhb.wa.gov

ALL documents, including Petitions for Review, Motions, Briefs, and Exhibits must be filed at this location. The location for Prehearing Conferences and Hearings on the Merits in the Central Puget Sound Board's cases will be indicated in the Notice of Hearing and Prehearing Order respectively. The Boards have adopted emergency rulemaking to in order to facilitate this consolidation. Please review these rules at the Boards' website.

¹ The office of the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board will also be relocating to Olympia. However, the Eastern Board's office is being phased out, with final closure to occur on August 31, 2009.

PLEASE NOTE, this consolidation is of the administrative functions only and does not modify the jurisdictional decision-making authority established by the Growth Management Act for the three Boards. The three Growth Management Hearings Boards remain separate and distinct boards. The Central Puget Sound Board retains jurisdiction and independent decision-making authority over petitions alleging a violation of the Growth Management Act for cities and counties within King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish County. The Western and Eastern Boards' jurisdiction remains the same as well.

If you have any questions in regards to the administrative consolidation of the Growth Management Hearings Board, please contact Linda Stores, Administrative Officer, at 360-586-0260 or <u>LindaS@cps.gmhb.wa.gov</u> or Julie Ainsworth-Taylor, Staff Attorney – Growth Management Hearings Boards, at 425-441-8250 or <u>Juliet@cps.gmhb.wa.gov</u>.